

Karny, 1937 (Gen. Insectorum, fasc. 206, Gryllacrididae: 213), listed *Acheta* Fabricius, 1775 (nec. Linnaeus), as a synonym of *Schizodactylus* Brulle, 1835, but that is a misapplication of the name, since *Acheta* has priority. Furthermore, although *Gryllus monstrosus* Drury, 1773, the type of *Schizo-*

dactylus, was included in *Acheta* by Fabricius, 1775 (Syst. Ent., Appendix: 826), no designation of *monstrosus* as type of *Acheta* prior to Curtis's designation of *domesticus* in 1830 has come to my attention. Accordingly, Karny's view is incorrect.

ZOOLOGY.—*A new species of phyllopod of the genus Streptocephalus from Mona Island, Puerto Rico.*¹ N. T. MATTOX, College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. (Communicated by Fenner A. Chace, Jr.)

During the course of biological investigations on Mona Island, Puerto Rico, several collections of an anostracan phyllopod were made. These animals were first observed, in temporary rain pools, on November 15, 1949, by Felix Inigo, of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mayagüez Branch. On April 14, 1950, Mr. Inigo collected 15 males and 18 females, and June 8, 1950, a third collection containing 60 males and 80 females. On June 22, 1950, I collected 33 males and 66 females from a fourth pool in which these animals have been observed. Study of these animals indicated clearly that they represented an undescribed species of the genus *Streptocephalus*.

Mona Island, politically a part of Puerto Rico, lies on latitude 18°05' N. and longitude 67°55' W., approximately 48 miles west-southwest of Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, and 40 miles east-southeast of Punta Espada, Dominican Republic, of the Greater Antilles. The total area of the island is approximately 14,000 acres. The island is relatively flat forming a mesa, averaging about 200 feet above sea level, which rises directly from the sea except for a coastal plain on the southwest side of the island. This coastal plain comprises approximately 1,000 acres on which a rich flora is found. The upper mesa has very little soil over the Ponce limestone (Miocene), which supports a sparse vegetation. Specimens of *Streptocephalus* have been found in temporary rain pools on both the coastal plain and the upper mesa.

¹ Contribution from the Department of Biology, College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Mayagüez, P. R. Received October 6, 1950.

Genus *Streptocephalus* Baird

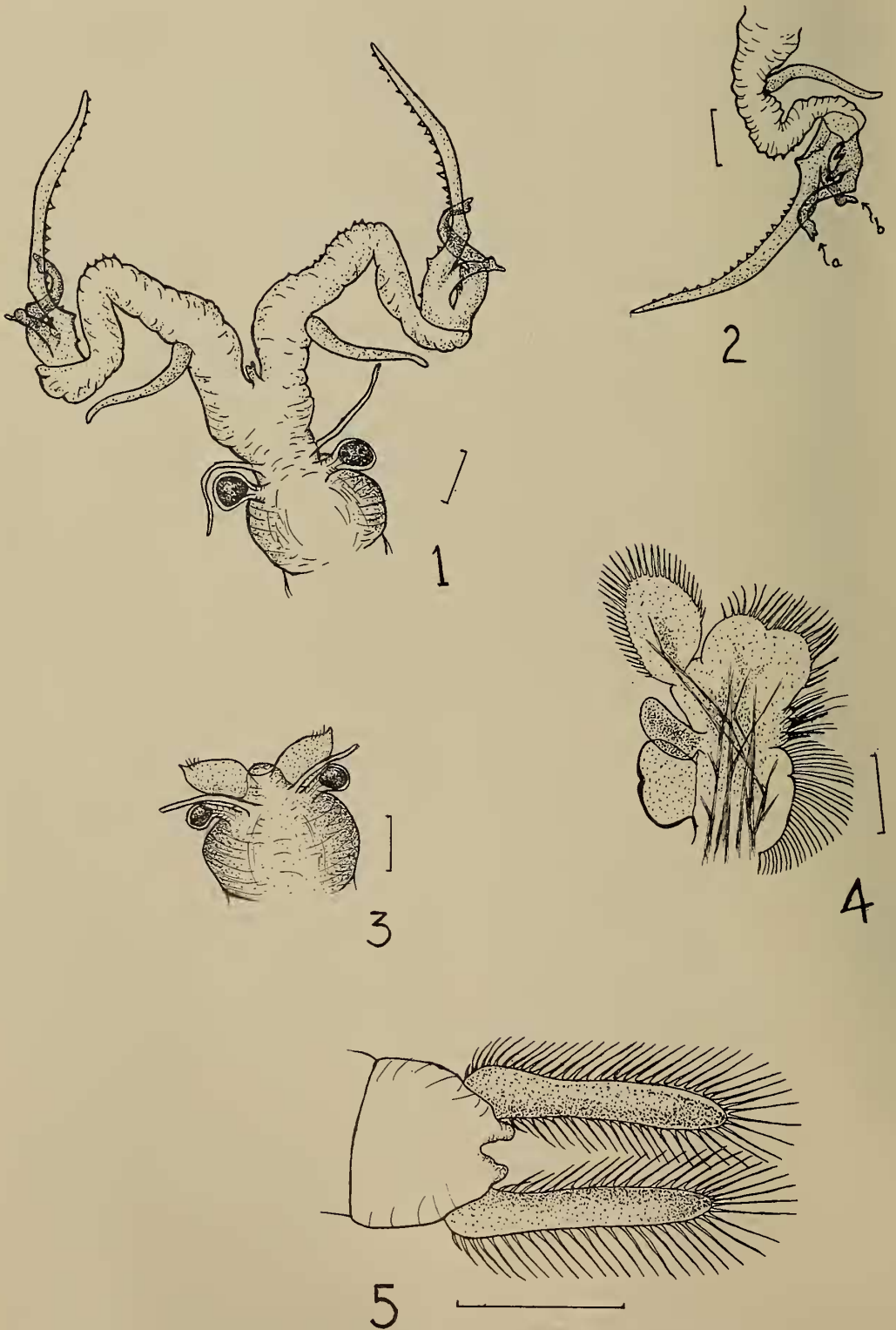
Streptocephalus antillensis, n. sp.

Figs. 1-5

Description.—The clasping second antennae of the male present definite specific characters. The basal segments of these antennae are coalesced and with a very short bilobed frontal appendage extending between their bases (Fig. 1). The basal portion is long, slender, and much wrinkled with an outgrowth process arising from the lateral surface of the basal third of this segment. The inner, median, surface is variously spined. The terminal segment, or so-called "scissors" or "hand," is very diagnostic. The internal shorter branch bears two processes at the base on the anterior surface (Fig. 2), the proximal one of these curves mediad, the distal process is more conspicuous, longer, and free from the appendage. The distal end of this inner branch is curved ventrally and terminates in a rounded bilobed apex (Fig. 2 at *a*). The external branch of the "scissors" is proportionately much longer than that of other American species. The posterior, basal spur of this branch terminates in a distinctive "bird's head"-like form (Fig. 2, at *b*). The "elbow" angle of this branch is very short, while the distal part is greatly attenuated and variously spined, from 15 to 19 spines, on its anterior surface. This spination is very distinctive.

The head of the female possesses the typical two pairs of antennae without a frontal appendage. The second antennae are broad and shorter than the first and bear a few spines on the median distal surface (Fig. 3).

The swimming appendages are typical of the genus. The endopodite is terminally notched and the praecepipodite has a slight median notch (Fig. 4). Endites 3 and 4 have the typical two anterior setae and endite 5 the single seta.



FIGS. 1-5.—1, Dorsal view of male head; 2, median view of second antenna of male; 3, dorsal view of head of female; 4, sixth swimming appendage of male; 5, dorsal view of male cercopods. (All camera-lucida outlines, scales equal 0.5 mm.)

The cercopods are distinctive. In both sexes the cercopods are heavily and regularly setiferous to the end. The cercopods are relatively short and lobiform and only slightly pointed (Fig. 5).

The penes possess a short, median process near the base. Terminally the penis has a short, heavy spine. The vas deferens has the characteristic dorsal loop without a seminal vesicle. The linguiform basal outgrowths mentioned by Linder (1941) are not present.

The maximum size observed for these animals is 11.0 mm in length. The average length for males is 9.9 mm and for females 9.0 mm. Specimens hatched in the laboratory from dried mud taken from a dried pool lived for 45 days and did not develop above average size.

Remarks.—*Streptocephalus antillensis* differs from the other western hemisphere species of the genus in many respects. Mackin (1942) indicates that the North American species prefer pools with abundant vegetation, while this species has been found in limestone pools devoid of vegetation except for some algae. In size this species is smaller than the other North American species: *S. sealii* Ryder up to 36.2 mm; *S. similis* Baird up to 15.5 mm, *S. texanus* Packard up to 29 mm, and *S. dorotheae* Mackin up to 18 mm in length.

Through the courtesy of the U. S. National Museum I have examined specimens of *S. sealii* (U.S.N.M. No. 180642), *S. texanus* (U.S.N.M. No. 154820), and metatypes of *S. dorotheae* (U.S. N.M. No. 79047). *S. antillensis* is easily separated from the species *S. sealii* and *S. similis* by the caudal furcae or cercopods, as in those two species the cercopods have heavy, curved spines distally instead of being setiferous to the end. Also *S. similis* has three processes on the anterior margin of the inner shorter branch of the male clasping antennae instead of the two processes of *S. antillensis*. *S. similis* has been recorded nearer, geographically, than any other species of the

genus having been taken from Jamaica and the Dominican Republic. There seems to be a closer relationship between *S. texanus*, *S. dorotheae* and *S. antillensis* than with the other two American species; the cercopods are similar, and the processes on the external branch of the clasping antennae are similar. However, the spinous and very elongated external branch of the "hand" and the "bird's head" termination of the basal spur are very distinctive, as are the shorter "elbow" section and general elongated proportions of this part. The more lobelike cercopods of *S. antillensis* also separate it from *S. texanus* and *S. dorotheae* where the cercopods are more elongated and pointed. The presence of the spines on the elongated outer branch of the clasping antennae separates this species from all others of the genus except *S. dichotomus* Baird from India, *S. papillatus* Sars from Africa, and the varieties of *S. torvicornis* from Hungary, Egypt, and Morocco discussed by Daday (1910). These latter species are so distinctive in many respects that there is no chance of confusion with *S. antillensis*. The coalescence of the basal portions of the second antennae also seems to be a diagnostic character for this species.

Type locality.—Mona Island, Puerto Rico.

Types.—Holotype, male, U.S.N.M. no. 91085, and paratypes, both sexes, U.S.N.M. no. 91086, in the U. S. National Museum and in the writer's collection.

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ORNITHOLOGY.—*The identity of the American vulture described as Cathartes burrovianus by Cassin.*¹ ALEXANDER WETMORE, Smithsonian Institution.

In the year 1845 on March 25 John Cassin presented before the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia the description of a species of American vulture based on a specimen forwarded from México by Dr. Marmaduke Burrough

(then recently deceased), who had served as United States consul at the Gulf coast port of Vera Cruz. This bird, which Cassin believed to be new to science because of its small size and certain color and structural characters, he named *Cath-*

¹ Received October 24, 1950.